

Application No.: 10/720,511
Response dated: November 18, 2004
Supplemental Reply to Office Action of August 27, 2004

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present claims, in light of the Remarks which follow, is respectfully requested.

Claims now before the Examiner are 1 - 18.

The numbering in this Response will follow that in the Examiner's Action.

Rejections Under 35 USC § 102

1. & 2. Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as Anticipated by US 5,672,666 (Muhle).

All of Applicants' claim elements must be considered in any patentability context. Not all of the present claim elements have been considered by the Examiner, evidenced by this Rejection.

Among the differences between Muhle and the present claims, is that Muhle does not disclose:

..."(b) forming a substantially contaminant-free seedbed from each polymerization reaction by removing a portion of the polymerization product from each polymerization reaction and stripping or venting reactants and contaminants from each polymerization product," or

... "(e)storing each substantially contaminant-free seedbed separately in a storage container under dry inert atmosphere to maintain each seed bed as substantially-free of contaminants" (claim 1).

Accordingly, absent such disclosure of these steps, the present claims are not Anticipated by Muhle.

Withdrawal of the Rejection is respectfully requested.

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All the Examiner's Objections and Rejections have been addressed.

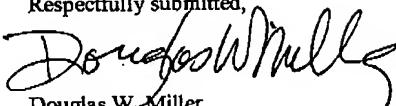
The claims are in condition for allowance.

Note is made that the correspondence should be sent to:

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Respectfully submitted,


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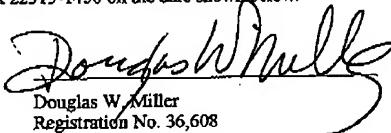
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

November 18, 2004

Date


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